



# Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### COMMERCIAL KING MACKEREL FISHERY CLOSED FOR VESSELS USING RUN-AROUND GILLNETS IN THE SOUTHERN FLORIDA WEST COAST SUBZONE

Beginning 12:00 noon, local time, January 19, 2001, the commercial run-around gillnet fishery for Gulf group king mackerel in the southern Florida west coast subzone is closed. NOAA Fisheries announced closure of this fishery after projecting that landings would reach the quota (541,125 pounds) on January 18, 2001. The gillnet fishery will remain closed in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) through 6:00 a.m., January 22, 2002, unless changed by a future notification in the Federal Register.

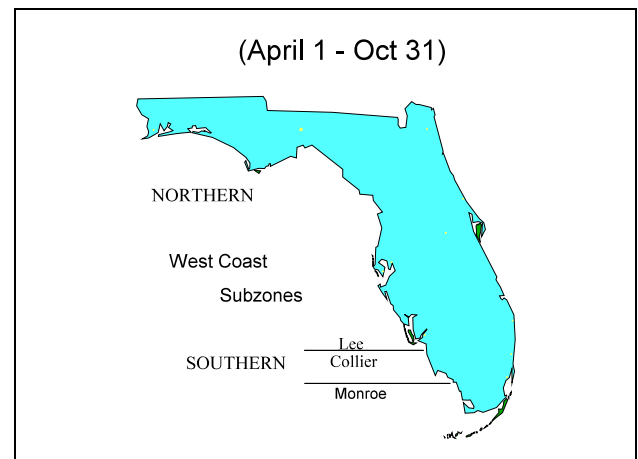
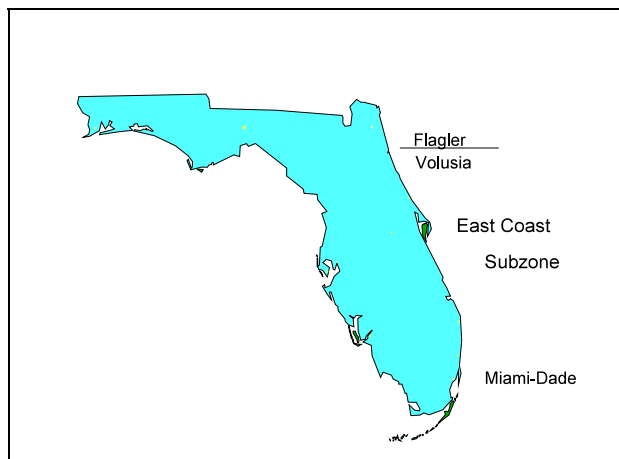
This action closes the commercial run-around gillnet fishery for Gulf group king mackerel in the EEZ of the southern Florida west coast subzone. The southern subzone is that part of the Florida west coast subzone which from November 1 through March 31 extends south and west from 25° 20.4' N. lat. to 26° 19.8' N. lat. (a line directly west from the Lee/Collier County, FL, boundary), i.e., the area off Collier and Monroe Counties. From April 1 through October 31, the southern subzone is that part of the Florida west coast subzone which is between 26° 19.8' N. lat. and 25° 48' N. lat. (a line directly west from the Monroe/Collier County, FL, boundary), i.e., the area off Collier County (See figures below).

Closure of the commercial run-around gillnet fishery complies with the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic and is necessary to protect and rebuild the overfished Gulf group king mackerel resource. Current information on the status of the commercial fisheries for Gulf group king mackerel is provided on the reverse side of this bulletin.

During the closure, no one may fish for or possess king mackerel in or from the closed area when on board a vessel issued a Federal king mackerel permit with a gillnet endorsement. Also, during the closure, no one on board a vessel using or possessing a gillnet with a stretched-mesh size of 4.75 inches (12.1 cm) or larger in the southern Florida west coast subzone may fish for or possess Gulf group king mackerel. To report violations of closures or commercial trip limits, contact the Law Enforcement Division of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) at 727/570-5344 or 1-800/853-1964.

NOAA Fisheries is an agency of the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

### GULF GROUP KING MACKEREL: FLORIDA WEST COAST SEASONAL BOUNDARIES



## GULF GROUP KING MACKEREL: STATUS OF QUOTAS AND DAILY TRIP/LANDING LIMITS FOR COMMERCIAL FISHERIES FOR THE 2000/2001 FISHING YEAR

ZONE/SUBZONE	QUOTA (POUNDS, lb)	DAILY VESSEL TRIP LIMITS	DURATION OF TRIP LIMITS		STATUS	
					BEGINNING	CURRENT
EASTERN ZONE (Florida)	2,340,000					
East Coast Subzone <sup>1</sup>	1,082,250	50 Fish	Nov 1	until 1,082,250 lb	Opened: 11/01/2000	<b>Open: 50 Fish/day</b>
West Coast Subzones	1,257,750					
<u>Northern</u>						
Hook and Line	175,500	1,250 lb 500 lb 0 lb	Jul 1 Nov 12'00 Nov 19'00	until 131,625 lb 175,500 lb Jul 1'01	Opens: 07/01/2001	<b>Closed: 11/19/00</b>
<u>Southern</u>						
Hook and Line	541,125	1,250 lb 500 lb	Jul 1 405,844	until 405,844 541,125 lb	Opened: 07/01/2000	<b>Open: 1,250 lb/day</b>
Gillnet	541,125	25,000 lb	Jan 16 '01	until 541,125 lb	Opened: 01/16/2001 <sup>2</sup>	<b>Closed: 01/19/01</b>
WESTERN ZONE (Texas - Alabama)	1,050,00	3,000 lb 0 lb	July 1 Aug 26'00	until 1,050,000 lb Jul 1'01	Opens: 07/01/2001	<b>Closed: 08/26/00</b>
Hook and Line						

<sup>1</sup> The Florida east coast subzone, located between the Flagler/Volusia and Miami-Dade/Monroe County boundaries, exists only from November 1 through March 31, when the Gulf migratory group of king mackerel extends into that area. From April 1 through October 31, king mackerel landed in that area belong to the Atlantic migratory group.

<sup>2</sup> Fishery is closed through 6:00 a.m., January 22, 2002.

To report violations of commercial trip limits or closures, contact NMFS Law Enforcement Division at 727/570-5344 or 1-800/853-1964. NMFS is an agency of the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Additional information on southeastern fisheries may be found on the websites of the Gulf of Mexico (<http://www.gulfcouncil.org>) or South Atlantic (<http://www.safmc.nmfs.gov>) or Fishery Management Council; they may be contacted by e-mail at [safmc@noaa.gov](mailto:safmc@noaa.gov) or [gulf.council@noaa.gov](mailto:gulf.council@noaa.gov), respectively.